

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

10 CODY HART et al.,

CASE NO. 2:23-cv-309

11 Plaintiffs,

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES

12 v.

13 RONALD WESEN et al.,

14 Defendants.

15 CODY HART et al.,

CASE NO. 2:23-cv-312 MJP

16 Plaintiffs,

17 v.

18 SANDRA PERKINS et al.,

19 Defendants.

20 CODY HART et al.,

CASE NO. 2:23-cv-311 MJP

21 Plaintiffs

22 v.

23 RICHARD WEYRICH et al.,

24 Defendants.

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2 This matter comes before the Court on Defendants' Notice of Related Cases., which the
3 Court interprets as a Motion to Consolidate (Dkt. No. 11.) Having reviewed the Motion,
4 Plaintiffs' complaints filed in Hart et al. v. Perkins et al., 2:23-cv-312; Hart et al. v. Weyrich et
5 al., 2:23-cv-311, and Plaintiffs Opposition to the Motion, the Court GRANTS the Motion and
6 ORDERS the above-captioned cases be consolidated for all purposes.

7 The Plaintiffs in the three different actions filed against various Skagit County
8 employees. Under Rule 42(a), the Court may consolidate cases that involve common questions
9 of law or fact. Fed. R. Civ. P. 42(a). The Court enjoys broad discretion in making this
10 determination. See Inv'rs Research Co. v. U.S. Dist. Ct. for Cent. Dist. of Cal., 877 F.2d 777, 777
11 (9th Cir. 1989). The Court usually considers several factors in analyzing consolidation, including
12 judicial economy, whether consolidation would expedite resolution of the case, whether separate
13 cases may yield inconsistent results, and the potential prejudice to a party opposing. See 9
14 Charles Alan Wright & Arthur R. Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure: Civil § 2383 (3rd ed.
15 2020).

16 Consolidation is appropriate here given the three actions present common questions of
17 law and fact and there are substantial efficiencies to be gained. All three actions involve claims
18 that Skagit County employees vacated their office because their bond was not timely deposited
19 with the Skagit County Clerk. And Defendants are all represented by Skagit County Prosecuting
20 Attorney's Office. Consolidation for all purposes will further conserve party and judicial
21 resources. As such the Court GRANTS the Motion and consolidates all three actions.

22 All filings in this consolidated action shall be filed on the docket of the initial case before
23 this Court (C23-309) with the following caption:
24

1 CODY HART et al.,
2

3 Plaintiffs,
4

5 v.
6 RONALD WESEN, et al.,
7

8 Defendants.
9

10 CASE NO. C23-309 MJP
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12 The Clerk is directed to file this Order in all three cases and then administratively close
13 the following related cases: (1) C23-312 MJP; (2) C23-311 MJP.
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15 The clerk is ordered to provide copies of this order to all counsel.
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17 Dated April 10, 2023
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21 Marsha J. Pechman
22 United States Senior District Judge
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